

210 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET (House)
Jeannette
Westmoreland County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-6138

HABS
PA
65-JEAN,
6-

PHOTOGRAPHS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
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ADDENDUM TO:
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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

210 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET (HOUSE)

HABS No. PA-6138

- LOCATION: 210 South Seventh Street, Jeannette, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania
- SIGNIFICANCE: A high concentration of window, tableware, bottle and specialty glass plants distinguished Jeannette as "The Glass City" early in its history. Significant housing stock consists of company-built row and detached double houses, and several privately constructed dwellings.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Johnstown resident Jacob J. Strayer purchased seven lots along Seventh and Eighth streets from H. Sellers McKee at the sale of lots in April 1889. Local grocer James P. Schall acquired four of the lots along Seventh Street in 1894 and 1896, and then constructed four gable-front houses. Number 210 was one of the first two built in 1895 and replaced an earlier dwelling on the lot. Residents while the Schalls owned the house included the Ambler family who lived here in 1910. Ellis Ambler was a shift foreman at the window glass works and his wife was at home with their three young children. According to deed records, the Schalls sold the house in 1921 to Guisepppe and Alderino Demilio, who owned the house through the 1930s. The 1928 directory lists the family at this address, but the names are Joseph and Alderena D'Emilio. No occupation is shown for Joseph, so it is likely he was retired. Mary D'Emilio, probably their daughter, was also living in the house. The D'Emilios sold the property in summer 1939, and later that year Daniel and Aline Vinck purchased it. Daniel died in 1944, and the house was sold the next year, but his widow and a Harold Vinck, probably their son, were still living in the house in the late 1940s. Harold was employed nearby at the American Window Glass Company, the successor to Chambers & McKee Glass.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

This gable-front house has much of its original, narrow horizontal siding and heavy window trim. The house is two bays over three bays on the front façade and retains decorative diamond shingles at the gable end. Although the porch columns and railing walls are of more recent construction, the porch deck itself and the engaged, turned

columns at the front façade give an idea of the original porch construction. The two-story, brick rear addition was built between 1916 and 1925, apparently with some materials reused from the earlier rear façade.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Insurance Maps of Jeannette, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1891, 1895, 1900, 1905, 1910, 1916, 1925.

Deed Books. Recorder of Deeds, Westmoreland County Courthouse, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Deed Record: 228/107, 260/420, 730/300, 1061/128, 1061/468, 1348/18, 2042/463, 2325/482, 2900/111.

City Directories, 1897, 1913, 1923, 1928, 1948, 1960.

Tax Assessment Books. Westmoreland County Tax Assessment Office, Westmoreland County Courthouse, Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 1910 census manuscripts on microfilm.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

In February 1987, the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) and the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) began a multi-year historical and architectural documentation project in southwestern Pennsylvania. Carried out in conjunction with America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP), HABS and HAER undertook a comprehensive documentation of Jeannette, documenting industries, housing and cultural institutions.